

Stated Meeting, February 4th, 1876.

Present, 17 members.

Vice-President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

Letters of envoy were received from the Botanical Gardens, at St. Petersburg, December 19th, 1875, and from the Albany Institute, January 28th, 1876.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from the New Bedford Public Library, 93,94; New York Historical Society, 95; and Rantoul Literary Society.

Donations for the Library were received from the Asiatic Society, Japan Branch; R. Academy, at Brussels; Royal Astronomical Society, in London; London Nature; Peabody Academy at Salem; Boston Society of N. H.; Mr. Edmund Quiney; American Journal of Science, and Professor Marsh, of New Haven; Albany Institute; Society of N. S. Buffalo; American Pharmaceutical Association; A. Journal of Pharmacy; Penn Monthly; Medical News; Social Science Association at Philadelphia; and U. S. Department Interior.

The death of John C. Cresson, first Vice-President of the Society, was announced by Mr. Eli K. Price, as having taken place January 27th ult., aged 69 (born March 16th, 1807).

On motion of Mr. Price, Mr. Fraley was appointed to prepare an obituary notice of the deceased.

Prof. Hart made a statement of the arguments for and against the genuineness of the "Death Mask of Shakespeare" said to have been discovered in Germany, illustrating his remarks by photographs of the principal portraits of Shakespeare, and of the mask in different positions.

Mr. Chase made reference to the paper of Dr. D. Ast, in the American Journal of Science and Arts for January, 1854, reproduced in the American Chemist for May, 1875, on observations on the spectra of metals in the electric circuit.

Pending nomination No. 792 was read.

Mr. Fraley reported the receipt of \$150.40, the dividend from the Michaux legacy last due, January 1st, 1876.

Mr. Blodget, on behalf of the Committee appointed at the last meeting, made a preliminary report, and the meeting was adjourned.

Stated Meeting, February 18th, 1876.

Present, 13 members.

Vice-President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

A letter accepting membership was received from Dr. J. Gibbons Hunt, dated Philadelphia, February 4th, 1876.

A letter respecting the action of the Society on the subject of the Polaris Expedition was received from Admiral Davis, dated Washington, February 15th, 1876.

A letter respecting a coin of 1670, the date of the settlement of Quebec, struck by order of Louis XIV, and making the first currency of French North America, was received from Prof. Charles E. Anthon, dated, College of the City of New York, February 11th, 1876, desiring to learn whether the Society would accept the coin, and place a record of its character in their Proceedings.

A letter of envoy was received from the U. S. Naval Observatory at Washington.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from the R. Danish Academy, January 15th (XVII. 93, 94); Essex Institution, February 5th (95); Boston N. H. S. (95; and asking for Vol. V, N. S. and 94); and the U. S. Naval Observatory, February 4th (95).

Donations for the Library were received from the Society at Dresden; the Geographical Society at Paris; the Editors of the *Revue Politique*; *Nouvelles Météorologiques*; *Revue Philosophique*; and *Revue Historique*; the British Association; Geological, and Meteorological Societies; *Nature*; Mr. Sam. Birch of the British Museum; Liverpool L. and P. Society; Franklin Institute; *Medical News*; Prof. E. J. Houston; and U. S. Naval Observatory.